

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the Office Action dated August 17, 2007, in which the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), stated that claims 11-15 are allowed, and objected to claims 2-5 and 7-10 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to foreign priority. However, Applicant respectfully submits that box 12(a)(3) should be marked rather than box 12(a)(1).

Claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Andoh* (U.S. Patent No. 6,141,306).

As indicated above, Claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 1 and 6.

As indicated above, objected to claims 2, 4, 7 and 9 have been rewritten into independent form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the objection to claims 2-5 and 7-10.

The prior art of record, which is not relied upon, is acknowledged. The references taken singularly or in combination do not anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for a reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 05-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicant

Date: October 30, 2007

By: 

Ellen Marcie Emas
Reg. No. 32,131
Tel. (212) 588-0800